

METHODS

A translation and evaluation of the VISA-P questionnaire (Study I)

The VISA-P score consists of eight questions, of which six questions concern pain experienced during a range of everyday activities (97). Two questions deal with the ability to engage in sport activities. All questions are answered on separate scales (97), where a higher score indicates a lower level of pain or impairment (see Appendix A and B in study I). The maximal total score is 100 points, which would indicate that the person has no knee pain, good function and can perform fully in sports. The theoretical minimum score is 0 points. The translation process followed the method described by Beaton et al (13). This method is currently used by a number of organizations, including the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) Outcomes Committee, as they coordinate translations of the different components of their outcome batteries (13). The translation process is divided into five different stages: I. Translation; II. Synthesis; III. Reverse translation; IV. Expert committee review and V. Pre-testing.

Initially, two physiotherapists performed two independent translations (2) from English into Swedish. A synthesis (4) of these translations was made, and the consensus of the two translated Swedish versions was documented. Reverse translations (11) were performed independently by three native Anglophones fluent persons in Swedish. One of the reverse translators was a physiotherapist, one was an economist and the third was a teacher. The three physiotherapists in the expert committee (2) then made a semantic and idiomatic equivalence analysis between the original source and target Swedish version of the VISA-P questionnaire. The translated questionnaire was pre-tested (2) on 12 individuals, six patients with patellar tendinopathy and six physical education students.

The Swedish VISA-P score was administrated to all 51 participants at Bosön, the Swedish National Sports Confederation Complex (Lidingö, Sweden). Three different groups completed the questionnaire twice within an interval of one week (range 4-7 days). The principal investigator administrated the questionnaires at all test occasions, with the exception of six of the tendinopathy patients.